

SECURITY AWARENESS

The Coast Guard Captain of the Port, in response to the recent military activity and terrorist attacks on America of 2001, is requesting your assistance in assuring the safety and security of our Marine Transportation System. It is the responsibility of every vessel owner/operator to take necessary measures to identify and minimize potential vulnerabilities. Appropriate measures should remain in effect until further notice.

Stakeholders are encouraged to follow guidelines set forth in Navigation and Vessel Information Circulars 4-02 – Security for Passenger Vessels and Passenger Terminals and 10-02 – Security Guidelines for vessels.

Examples of general security measures include, but are not limited to:

- Incorporating and implementing a Security Plan based on Security Assessments.
- Additional training and drills to ensure crew familiarity with Security Plans and procedures.
- Positively control access to vessel. Identify restricted areas and methods to prevent unauthorized access.
- Procedures to follow in case of security threat or breach.
- Increasing security presence at embarking/disembarking locations.
- Evaluating pre-boarding procedures (including positive photo identification of passengers, baggage inspection and maintaining a list of people arriving/departing).
- Searching vessels for unattended baggage and minimizing allowable carry-on baggage.
- Locking vessels when not attended.
- Closely scrutinizing late arriving passengers with no reservations.
- Using hand-held metal detectors to screen passengers.
- Increasing surveillance of parking areas.
- Developing a ready list of emergency and law enforcement contact telephone numbers.
- Immediately reporting suspicious activity to local law enforcement agencies.

It is realized that due to the size of the vessel and the number of crew required that all of the requirements herein are not possible to comply with, however diligence on the owner/operator's behalf would greatly enhance safety aboard these vessel's.

For additional information please refer to the Passenger Vessel Association website for additional security information. <http://www.passengervessel.com/>

Any questions, please feel free to contact me. Lieutenant Michael Stokes 813-228-2189
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